

# THE LEAGUE UNDAUNTED.

## PROHIBITION FOLLOWS PROCLAMATION.

A TALK WITH MR. HARRINGTON, SECRETARY OF THE PROHIBITION ORGANIZATION—TROUBLE IN ST. LOUIS—THE GOVERNMENT—A NATIONALIST DEPUTATION TO VISIT AMERICA.

(BY CALL TO THE THIRTEEN.)

LONDON, Aug. 29.—I hear to-night on good authority that the Government have resolved to prohibit the National League throughout all Ireland simultaneously. Prohibition is the next step after proclamation and this will mean, if it means anything, a vigorous attempt to suppress all meetings of the League and its branches wherever held. The following interview which I had with Timothy Harrington, M. P., secretary of the National League, before his departure for Dublin will therefore have special significance.

"You do not," I said, "appear to view the action of the Government with much misgiving?"

"No," answered Mr. Harrington. "I have very little fear that the present Tory Government can do us much injury. No doubt they will give some trouble to our branches, but they are not likely to escape getting ten times more trouble themselves. The National League simply means the whole body of the Nationalists in Ireland at the present time. There never was an organization which represented the universal feeling of the country to such a degree, and it is conceded by the English themselves that they know no political organization in Europe that has a better right to speak the sentiment of the country it represents."

"Is the position of the National League stronger than that of the Land League at the time of its suppression?"

"Yes, very much stronger. In the first place we have some three or four times the number of branches which the Land League had when it was proclaimed; and we have another advantage which adds very materially to the strength of our position—we have a very much larger proportion of the clergy of the country identified with our branches and holding influential positions in the country. This will render it more difficult for the Government to suppress the organization."

"How do you think the Government will proceed?"

"It is very difficult to say, and it would seem as if they themselves had not yet made up their mind as to the course they will pursue. They may proceed by a general order prohibiting the League, or they may proceed by stages taking first one county or a certain number of branches, and then extending their operations. Should they try the first course of attacking all the branches of the League together, I have no doubt that they are doomed to immediate failure. It will take ten times the number of police and soldiers at their command to make an attack of that kind effective. On the other hand should they adopt the course of beginning by partial prohibition we shall give them so much trouble in the first districts they attack that they are not likely to be in much heart to extend the area of their campaign."

"Do you think the branches of the League will meet despite the proclamation?"

"No doubt they will, and so we shall advise them."

"Will this policy entail a large number of imprisonments?"

"So I should think if the Government are at all going to act up to their declarations; but every trial, every arrest and every release from jail will be made the occasion of immense popular demonstrations. The Government have tried to get rid of the odium attaching to evictions, at least for a time, by the fourth clause of their new Land Act, which makes a notice of eviction stand in place of the actual taking of possession. The publicity which they managed to procure for Irish evictions latterly was carrying English constituencies in our favor and winning immense sympathy for our cause among the masses of people in England. But the Tory Government are very much mistaken if they think the demonstrations at every prosecution and arrest of a member of the National League will not be equally eloquent and effective."

"Will the police find it easy to obtain evidence?"

"By no means. I do not think an executive government even in Ireland ever entered upon a struggle of that kind with great difficulties. They will get no member of our organization to assist or give the slightest countenance to their proceedings or prosecutions, and we cannot give the slightest aid or countenance to the infamous under which they proceed our men will not obey their summonses to attend either as witnesses or defendants. In all such cases we will put them to the necessity of first arresting the men they want to try as well as those from whom they want to extort information."

"You will continue the meetings of the Central Branch in O'Connell-street, as usual?"

"Certainly. We shall continue them openly until the time of prohibition, and so long as a member of our organization is left, we shall continue them after prohibition."

The first prohibition prosecutions under the Coercion Act will be those of William O'Brien, M. P., and Mr. Conlon, M. P., for speeches recently delivered by them at Mitchelstown. This will be a test prosecution. Its result will go far to indicate the character the crisis will assume during the winter. It is to come off on September 9.

A deputation of the Irish party will shortly visit America. As at present arranged it will consist of Arthur O'Connor, Member for Donegal, and Sir Thomas Henry Gratton Esmonde, Bart., Member for South Dublin. Mr. O'Connor is one of the ablest and most distinguished members of our party, and as such is one of the most advanced. He is a man who would probably be chosen by unanimous consent to be Speaker of an Irish Parliament if we were selecting one to-morrow. Sir Thomas Esmonde is a great-grandson of Henry Gratton and possesses a liberal education of his illustrious ancestor's eloquence. He is a landlord, but a good one, and belongs to one of the oldest and best Celtic-Norman families of the County Wexford. One of his ancestors, Dr. Esmonde, was hanged as a rebel on Calistone Bridge, Dublin, in 1793. He is descended, moreover, from the famous Irish Princess Grattan, daughter of Lachry King of Connaught, who gave the English so much trouble in Elizabeth's day.

T. P. GILL, M. P.

## PRINCE VICTOR ISSUES A MANIFESTO.

PARIS, Aug. 29.—Prince Victor, son of Prince Jerome Bonaparte, has issued a manifesto at Brussels in which he condemns the Conservative party of France for supporting the Opportunist Cabinet. He describes the present condition of his party and expresses his views as to the proper course to be pursued to accomplish the end in view—the restoration of the Empire. The manifesto is remarkable in its fulsome to make any mention of Paul De Cassagne, the wildest champion of Bonapartism.

## EARTHQUAKE SHOCK IN MEXICO.

CITY OF MEXICO, via Guatemala, Aug. 29.—A brick earthquake shock was experienced here about 7 o'clock this morning, agitating houses and making people dizzy. In some streets people ran out of their houses and fell on the ground. The shock was not severe and was most felt in the outlying portions of the city.

## ESCAPE OF AN ELEPHANT FROM A CIRCUS.

BIRMINGHAM, Eng., Aug. 29.—Roughly a large elephant, getting away from a circus which was performing here this afternoon, and swam across Smith's Pond. He then went through the town at a lively pace. He turned west and followed the river for some distance, destroying any fences that were in his road. The brute got into a field where there were a number of cattle, and after chasing them round for awhile, he was recaptured by the circus men on the Grand Frigate Railroad track and is still on the road west about six miles from here. There are a number of men and two other elephants after him.

## PREPARING FOR MORE EVICTIONS.

DUBLIN, Aug. 29.—Captain Plunkett having urged Mr. O'Grady to settle with the tenants on his farm.

# SEVEN FIRE BUGS CAPTURED.

## ALL OF THEM EX-VOLUNTEER FIREMEN.

PLAINFIELD UNDER A REIGN OF TERROR FOR THREE YEARS—SOME OF THE LOSSES.

Plainfield has a sensation in the arrest of seven citizens charged with incendiarism running through three years. Week after week from one to three buildings have been burned here until a reign of terror grew up driving many people to other cities, keeping those who remained behind in constant fear of being burnt out any night. Up to last Sunday morning the police seemed to be utterly unable to find a trace of the fire bugs, and the credit of entrapping the gang of incendiaries fell at last to an amateur detective, Edwin J. Murphy. A purse of \$1,000 has been subscribed for him already and the grateful townsmen are talking of raising more.

The story of the capture of the leader of the gang, John M. Jackson, who was the first to be taken, is a sensational one, and his subsequent revelations to Murphy, who he supposed was an accomplice, form an interesting tale. Chief of Police Dodd, had had the gang under surveillance for several months, but for lack of proof has made no arrests. He has been ably assisted in his work by Patrolman Lynch. The constant watching of the gang at night finally resulted in the chief's illness and about three weeks ago he went to the city for a trip, and left Jackson in charge. As was expected, the gang was emboldened by Jackson's absence and the departure of the chief fire became more frequent.

Murphy and Jackson, who were both about 40 and 45 years of age, were both ex-firemen. Jackson was a volunteer fireman and went to work in Potter's Press Works. About four months ago, Chief Dodd asked Murphy's aid to get members of the gang under surveillance. He had been ably assisted in his work by Patrolman Lynch. The constant watching of the gang at night finally resulted in the chief's illness and about three weeks ago he went to the city for a trip, and left Jackson in charge. As was expected, the gang was emboldened by Jackson's absence and the departure of the chief fire became more frequent.

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